CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of displaying the status of remotely controlled devices using 3D graphics ~~including the steps of~~comprising:

preparing a predefined database that includes the controlled devices and ~~the~~ a nearby environment;

preparing a database representation for each state of each controlled device, each state of each controlled device representing an operating state of the controlled device given viewpoint;

determining ~~the~~ a state of the command for each controlled device based on an output of a controller for controlling a respective controlled device;

providing a means of selecting ~~the~~ an action for each command for each controlled device using the associated controller; and

rendering ~~the~~ an image of each controlled device from a predetermined viewpoint corresponding the determined state of the command, the image representing each controlled device in a 3D manner.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~with the additional step of~~, further comprising monitoring ~~the~~ a condition of the controlled device and rendering the image ~~accordingly~~based on the condition of the controlled device.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1 with the additional step of~~ 2, further comprising selecting the predetermined viewpoint from a list ~~or setting it interactively~~of viewpoints.

4. (New) The method of claim 3, further comprising monitoring an output of the controller associated with the controlled device to determine the condition of the controlled device.

5. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the predefined database further includes 3D database representations for substantially all states of the commands associated with each controlled device.

6. (New) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

in response to a determined state of a command of a controlled device, retrieving a 3D database representation corresponding to the determined state of the command of the controlled device; and

rendering the image using the retrieved 3D database representation for the controlled device.

7. (New) A machine-readable medium having instructions, which when executed, cause a machine to perform a method for displaying the status of remotely controlled devices using 3D graphics, the method comprising:

preparing a predefined database that includes the controlled devices and a nearby environment;

preparing a database representation for each state of each controlled device, each state of each controlled device representing an operating state of the controlled device given viewpoint;

determining a state of the command for each controlled device based on an output of a controller for controlling a respective controlled device;

providing a means of selecting an action for each command for each controlled device using the associated controller; and

rendering an image of each controlled device from a predetermined viewpoint corresponding the determined state of the command, the image representing each controlled device in a 3D manner.

8. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 7, wherein the method further comprises monitoring a condition of the controlled device and rendering the image based on the condition of the controlled device.

9. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the method further comprises selecting the predetermined viewpoint from a list of viewpoints.

10. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises monitoring an output of the controller associated with the controlled device to determine the condition of the controlled device.

11. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 10, wherein the predefined database further includes 3D database representations for substantially all states of the commands associated with each controlled device.

12. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises:

in response to a determined state of a command of a controlled device, retrieving a 3D database representation corresponding to the determined state of the command of the controlled device; and

rendering the image using the retrieved 3D database representation for the controlled device.

13. (New) A data processing system, comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor for storing instructions, which when executed from the memory, cause the processor to perform a method for displaying the status of remotely controlled devices using 3D graphics, the method comprising:

preparing a predefined database that includes the controlled devices and a nearby environment;

preparing a database representation for each state of each controlled device, each state of each controlled device representing an operating state of the controlled device given viewpoint;

determining a state of the command for each controlled device based on an output of a controller for controlling a respective controlled device;

providing a means of selecting an action for each command for each controlled device using the associated controller; and

rendering an image of each controlled device from a predetermined viewpoint corresponding the determined state of the command, the image representing each controlled device in a 3D manner.